



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2002**

For Information Contact
Carla Friestad (602) 514-7573

KINO WEED AND SEED COALITION OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that United States Attorney Paul K. Charlton will present a certificate announcing the designation of Official Recognition to the Kino Weed and Seed Coalition in Tucson, Arizona. The ceremony will be held today March 4, 2002, at 2:00, in the Council Chambers of Tucson Mayor Robert E. Walkup.

Official Recognition is the first step in becoming a Weed and Seed Site. Weed and Seed is a Department of Justice strategy developed to address crime in individual neighborhoods. This strategy promotes a strong 50/50 partnership between law enforcement and the community. This community-based initiative encompasses an innovative and comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.

The designation of Official Recognition will make the Kino Weed and Seed Coalition site eligible to compete for Department of Justice grant funds. The two established Weed and Seed sites in Pima County, West Side Coalition and South Tucson have assisted the Kino Coalition in the development of their strategy. The addition of the Kino site brings the total of Officially Recognized sites in the State of Arizona to eight with all of the other seven receiving grant funds.

(MORE)

Attending the presentation of the Official Recognition certificate will be the Honorable Mayor Robert E. Walkup, area council members, Kino Weed and Seed Coalition Steering Committee members, United States Attorney, Paul K. Charlton, Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney, Tom L. Fink and members of the United States Attorney's staff.

RELEASE NUMBER: 2002-052

#